

September 26, 2016

GLOBAL VIEW

Pentagon chief, an expert on nukes, says little about them

Associated Press, Sept. 26

When asked, Secretary Carter has left no doubt that he sees nuclear weapons as the "bedrock" of U.S. security. But he rarely reveals the underpinnings of his thinking.

U.S. General: Ten percent of Afghanistan under Taliban control

Associated Press, Sept. 23

The Taliban controls over 10 percent of Afghanistan's population and the insurgent group is battling with the Afghan government for control of at least another 20 percent, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan said.

US military is hunting al Qaeda in at least 7 of Afghanistan's provinces

Long War Journal, Sept. 24

General John W. Nicholson Jr., who leads NATO's Resolute Support and US Forces Afghanistan, listed the provinces in response to a question about how many senior al Qaeda leaders remain in eastern Afghanistan. He specifically mentioned the provinces of Kandahar, Zabul, Paktika, Ghazni, Kunar, Nuristan and Nangarhar.

U.S. Marine general predicts Mosul offensive is near

The Hill Online, Sept. 24

Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen III, who served as director of the Combined Joint Operations Center in Baghdad said he believes that an offensive to retake the city of Mosul, from ISIS is drawing near.

Iraq oil fires could jeopardize Mosul mission

Associated Press (Exclusive), Sept. 23

A fire at one of Iraq's oil fields could hinder military and humanitarian efforts as operations to recapture the ISIS stronghold of Mosul get underway.

THREAT NETWORKS

The Feud Between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State, Explained

Newsweek, Sept. 25

When al-Zarqawi was killed by the Americans in the summer of 2006, his successor proclaimed Al-Qaeda in Iraq was no more; its soldiers now fought for the brand new Islamic State of Iraq. Al-Qaeda's leaders fumed—they had not been forewarned of the Islamic State's establishment.

How ISIS Leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi Came to Be

Newsweek, Sept. 24

In the wake of the American invasion in 2003, al-Baghdadi helped found a band of insurgents called Army of the People of the Sunna and Communal Solidarity, a Sunni militia violently opposed to the United States and its allies.

ISIS has a navy? The US is sinking it

CNN, Sept. 24

The U.S. and coalition tanked 65 ISIS boats in September alone. ISIS has been using boats to move fighters up and down the river and as waterborne IEDs.

WORLDWIDE IED EVENTS

Islamic State claims Baghdad suicide bombing that kills seven

Reuters, Sept. 25

A suicide bomber blew himself up in a commercial street of Baghdad on Sunday, killing seven and wounding 28, police sources said, as Islamic State steps up attacks in Iraq.

ISIS blamed for deadly triple suicide attack in Iraq

CBS News, Sept. 24

A triple suicide bombing against a security checkpoint north of Baghdad on Saturday killed at least 11 members of the security forces.

Budapest explosion: Attempted homicide against police officers, manhunt underway – prosecutor

RT, Sept. 25

The attacker detonated an IED filled with nails on the ground floor of a store as police officers were passing by late on Saturday.

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Artificial Intelligence For Air Force: Cyber & Electronic Warfare

Breaking Defense, Sept. 20

The Air Force wants artificial intelligence to track and react to cyber and electronic threats, to update countermeasures against enemy hackers, radars, and missiles faster than human minds can manage.

Can Pentagon Tap Apple, Facebook, Tesla To Rule Future Battlefield?

Investor's Business Daily, Sept. 21

Deputy Defense Secretary Robert Work said artificial intelligence and autonomy will be critical to the U.S. military in the future.

TRAINING

FBI Takes Lead in Training Nation's Bomb Technicians (Video)

American Security Today, Sept. 25

In addition to certification and recertification programs, the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal offers advance training in a variety of areas, including weapons of mass destruction and electronic and maritime countermeasures.